



Eastbay Astronomical Society Presents

When: Saturday, May 18, 7:30 – 9:30PM

Where: Chabot Space and Science Center; Room: Hauben Room

Join us for our free monthly presentation on the latest in Astronomy! Along with our featured speaker, we will be giving away door prizes to a lucky few, as well as snacks and drinks to taste. Our library will be opened up after the meeting as well, and of course, weather permitting, there will be free telescope viewing on the decks.

“The Solar Wind”

Dr. Christopher Chen

Abstract of Lecture

I will present an introduction to the solar wind, the stream of charged particles that flows away from the Sun and fills interplanetary space.

I will describe the journey made by the solar wind, from when it is born at the surface of the Sun to when it reaches the edge of the solar system and merges into the interstellar medium. Along its journey, the solar wind interacts with planets, moons, comets and cosmic rays as well as undergoing its own dynamical processes, which allows us to investigate some deep mysteries of fundamental physics. I will show how cutting edge spacecraft instrumentation has enabled us to learn about the solar wind and will discuss some remaining unanswered questions and the future missions we have planned to attempt to resolve them.



Biography of Speaker

Dr Christopher Chen is a research scientist at the Space Sciences Laboratory (SSL), University of California, Berkeley. He joined SSL in 2011, having completed his PhD in Space Physics at Imperial College London. He researches the physics of the solar wind using spacecraft data and is a member of the team working on the NASA Solar Probe Plus mission, which will send a spacecraft into the solar corona for the first time.

For more information see: <http://sprg.ssl.berkeley.edu/~chen>.

*Not a member? Sign up at eastbayastro.org for astronomical benefits!
Like us on Facebook for updates and more: facebook.com/EastbayAstronomicalSociety
Much love to Chabot Space and Science Center: chabotspace.org*